

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In furtherance to the Office action dated April 7, 2009, Applicant hereby submits new claims 69-77 for the Examiner's consideration. Independent claim 69 is drawn to the specific limitation of locating a plurality of strain sensors in the circumferential constriction (19). The arrangement of the strain sensors in the circumferential constriction leads to a total new arrangement for measuring forces acting on the housing. Without the arrangement, it is not possible to measure forces on the housing directly since deformations of the housing are quite small in case no circumferential constriction is provided. Moreover, it is essential to arrange the strain sensors in the circumferential constriction to measure deformations in the circumferential constriction, since in the circumferential constrictions the deformation provide a maximum. None of the cited documents show such an arrangement.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 69-77 are allowable over the cited and applied prior art references.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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